



ENTGROUP OF CLEVELAND, INC.

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POST-OPERATIVE CARE FOR EAR SURGERY PATIENTS

1. Dressing from the hospital SHOULD NOT be removed until the next morning. Remove the cotton ball which is in your ear and replace with a cotton ball saturated with Bacitracin or Polysporin antibiotic ointment. DO NOT put the cotton ball deep into your ear canal. Simply place it in the ear. The cotton ball should be changed in the ear at least once a day and as needed if it is dirty or soiled. If there is not a large plastic ear dressing on the ear, simply remove the cotton ball from the ear and replace according to instructions.
2. After your ear surgery, the ear canal is filled with a jelly-like foam and antibiotic ointment, all the way down to the eardrum (tympanic membrane). There may be a little bit of blood oozing from this. This is completely normal. The ear will be blocked with this packing material for approximately two to six weeks. DO NOT attempt to clean this out yourself. It is necessary to let the reconstructed parts of your ear heal properly.

However, if you notice a pus-like drainage that has a bad odor, call Dr. Wladecki immediately!
3. Normally, sutures are placed underneath the skin and should heal without any complications. You may clean all scabs, crusts, etc., off behind the ear with a wash cloth or with Q-Tips with peroxide.
4. **DO NOT** for any reason replace the large plastic ear bandage which you removed according to Step #1, if you had one of these. If you didn't have one, don't worry about it.
5. **DO NOT** blow your nose. If your nose is runny or drippy or is congested you may take a DECONGESTANT ONLY such as Sudafed. DO NOT not take an antihistamine. If you develop a fever please call Dr. Wladecki in regards to instructions.
6. **DO NOT** bend over and pick up anything weighing more than ten pounds for the first week following the surgery.
7. If you have symptoms or dizziness longer than 24 hours after surgery, please call Dr. Wladecki for instructions. You may have some numbness or decreased sensitivity around the ear lobe and back side of the ear. This is normal. The numbness should begin to tingle after a few weeks and then normal sensation should return.